
List of terms

Administration log The Administration log is a list of significant user initiated events, for example, Configuration sessions (when a change was made), invalid password attempts, and password changes. This log holds a maximum of ten events, and should be checked and cleared periodically.

Administration programming Administration programming includes setting registration permission, user options, time and date, and passwords.

Administration Terminal A Northern Telecom M7310 wired terminal used to perform Administration and Configuration programming, perform maintenance activities, and display alarm messages. The Administration Terminal does not support voice telephony when connected to a Meridian Companion system.

Alarm code A number that appears on the Administration Terminal display informing you of the type of fault the Controller has detected in the system.

Antenna Each Base Station has its own built-in antenna. External antennas can be used indoors or outdoors to extend radio coverage to hard-to-reach places such as tunnels or stairwells.

Base Station A Base Station is the communication link between the portables and the Meridian Companion system. Each Base Station contains two radios and can handle two portable telephone calls simultaneously. A Base Station is indirectly connected to a CMCC or CMRC.

Calling Party Name Display (CPND) Available on wireless telephones beginning with X11 release 20B, CPND enables portable telephones with displays to show the names of callers.

CDS See Companion Diagnostic Software.

Cell The area covered by one or more radios in close proximity. One or more cells make up the coverage area. Cell sizes vary with layout and building architecture.

Cell boundary value The minimum acceptable signal strength value (from a particular Base Station) specified for radio coverage. During site planning, this value is used to locate the outer edge of the coverage area for each cell (see Receive Signal Strength Indicator reading).

Cell center The location of the radios or the external antennas serving a cell. This is the point of reference for determining the cell boundary.

CMCC Companion Meridian Controller Card. Supports the Administration Terminal or a RAD connected to a PC running Companion Manager, 15 Base Stations, and 16 portable telephones. It can be installed in the IPE Module, CE/PE Module, or Option 11 expansion cabinet.

CMLC Companion Meridian Line Card. Supports 16 users. It can be installed in the IPE Module, CE/PE Module, or Option 11 expansion cabinet.

CMRC Companion Meridian Radio Line Card. Supports 16 Base Stations and 16 portable telephones. It can be installed in the IPE Module, CE/PE Module, or Option 11 expansion cabinet.

Common Signaling Channel (CSC) radio At each cell center, one radio (the CSC radio) is dedicated to locate and track portable movements. The other radios of that cell center (traffic radios) are used to establish voice connections with the portables.

Characteristics of CSC radios:

- You cannot measure the RSSI of a CSC radio.
- When the voice traffic in a given cell is high, the CSC radio may be used as a traffic radio.
- The CSC radios are allocated randomly at startup.
- If a CSC radio is disconnected, the system chooses another radio at that cell center to be the CSC radio.

Companion Diagnostic Software (CDS) Provides access to real-time and historical radio performance on the Meridian Companion system. CDS runs on a PC (located either on-site or in a remote location), and connects to the Meridian Companion system through a RAD.

Companion Manager Companion Manager administers one or more Meridian Companion systems. It can be used in addition to or instead of the Administration Terminal. Companion Manager runs on a personal computer (located either on-site or in a remote location) and connects to each system through a Remote Access Device (RAD).

Companion Meridian Controller Card See CMCC.

Companion Meridian Line Card See CMLC.

Companion Meridian Radio Line Card See CMRC.

Coverage area The area where a portable user should be able to make and receive calls. It can include both indoor and outdoor areas, stairwells, elevators, etc. Base Stations are installed in strategic locations throughout the customer's premises creating a network of overlapping radio cells. Collectively, these radio cells are referred to as the radio coverage area.

CPND See Calling Party Name Display.

CSC radio See Common Signaling Channel radio.

Default The settings for all parameters when the system is first installed. Defaults are automatically assigned at system start-up. Settings are changed from their default values during programming.

Deregistration Disabling a portable telephone from working on a wireless system.

Directory Number A number that can be assigned to a single telephone or to multiple telephones, for example, a portable telephone and a wireline. See TN.

DN See Directory Number.

Event message Event messages are stored in the Event/Alarm log and displayed on the Administration Terminal during a Maintenance session. They record a variety of events and activities in the Meridian Companion system.

Event/Alarm log The Event/Alarm log is a list of system generated events and alarm codes. The Event/Alarm log holds a maximum of 50 events and should be checked and cleared regularly.

Expansion Cabinet A cabinet, required for Option 11 systems, that can accommodate Meridian Companion cards.

Exposed wiring Telecommunications circuit wiring outside a building structure. Such wiring requires use of primary and secondary protectors.

External antenna A passive radio frequency receiver connected to a Base Station radio. An external antenna can be used instead of the internal Base Station antenna to extend radio coverage to hard-to-reach places or locations where Base Stations cannot be installed.

FCC Federal Communications Commission.

Hand-off When an active radio link to a portable is transferred from one Base Station to another Base Station in the Meridian Companion system (that is when the user moves from one cell to another). Hand-off occurs automatically when the Controller detects that the strength and quality of the radio signal have gone below a predefined threshold and there is a better radio connection available.

Installer password A one- to six-digit password that is used to prevent unauthorized access to programming, Maintenance, Memory Reset and System Startup. The Installer password can be changed in Configuration programming.

IPE Intelligent peripheral equipment. Meridian Companion cards are installed on the IPE shelf in Meridian 1 Option 21 through Option 81 systems.

ISM Incremental software management. Permits precise definition of user capacity and coverage.

LID See system LID.

M7310 terminal See Administration Terminal.

Main Distribution Frame Frame-mounted BIX modules that cross

connect Meridian 1 terminations. All Meridian Companion wiring connects to the Meridian 1 system through a Main Distribution Frame.

Maintenance Maintenance functions provide system backup and restore functions as well as diagnostic features for the system, cards, and devices.

Maintenance cables Two cables, one for the CMLC and one for the CMRC, that allow a defective card to be removed without affecting operation of other cards.

MCRA See Multiple Call Arrangement Allowed.

MCRD See Multiple Call Arrangement Denied.

MDF See Main Distribution Frame.

Message Waiting Indicator A visual or audible telephone set indicator that alerts the user to the fact that a message is waiting.

Multiple Appearance Directory Number (MADN) A host switch feature that allows the assignment of the same host switch telephone number to any number of lines that are wired to the host switch.

Multiple Call Arrangement Allowed Prevents access to a conversation on a portable telephone from the corresponding wireline set. The portable telephone user can originate and receive calls when a set sharing the same DN is on a call.

Multiple Call Arrangement Denied Allows access to a conversation on a portable from the corresponding wireline set. The wireline user can listen in on the portable telephone user's calls.

MWI See Message Waiting Indicator.

Password A specific sequence of digits entered from the Administration Terminal dialpad or through Companion Manager to gain access to Meridian Companion operation and programming.

PC Personal computer.

PCI A protocol used in the United States that is compliant with FCC guidelines for the 1.92 GHZ band.

Portable Credit Code These credits predefine the maximum number of

portables that can be registered to the system. Systems can only register as many portables as there are available Portable Credits. To register additional portables, you must obtain Portable Credit Codes for the number of additional portables you need. You can obtain additional codes whenever you need to expand the number of portables, up to a maximum of 240 portables for an Option 21 through Option 81 system or a maximum of 160 portables for an Option 11 system.

Portables The Companion portable is a battery-powered, pocket-size portable telephone. Meridian Companion can support up to 240 portable telephones depending on card configuration.

Primary protector A voltage surge protector connected between each line conductor and ground located where telecommunications conductors enter a building structure.

Programming The setting of various characteristics of the system. This includes system-wide settings and radio cell assignments.

Programming record An on-site planning and reference document. All Configuration and Administration settings should be recorded in the *Meridian Companion Programming and Provisioning Record*.

Protocol Converter Unit (PCU) Circuitry used on the CMCC and CMRC to provide signaling information.

RAD See Remote Access Device.

Radio Credits The Meridian Companion system software recognizes Base Stations as Radio credits. Each Base Station consists of two radios. The number of Radio Credits licenced to be supported by the system is embedded in the UTAM Activation Code.

Radio link A radio channel between the Base Station and the portable.

Receive Signal Strength Indicator (RSSI) reading The Meridian Companion system portables can display the current signal strength of the portable to the Base Station link. RSSI measurements are displayed as negative values. The smaller the negative value the stronger the signal strength.

Recovery Code Activates wireless communication on a disabled system.

Registration Meridian Companion enables portable telephone registration. Each portable telephone in the system must be registered to a Wireless Terminal Number (WTN).

Registration password Prevents unauthorized users from registering portables on the Meridian Companion system.

Regression Code Required in cases of system recovery. The application of this code, which cannot be reused, restores the previous system security number so that previously applied UTAM Activation Codes and Portable Credit Codes can be reentered to restore full system operation.

Remote Access Device (RAD) Allows a PC running Companion Manager or Companion Diagnostic Software to access the Meridian Companion system. Access may be established by connecting the RAD on the customer site using a local connection, or at a remote location using standard modem equipment.

Remote power interconnect (RPI) An interface providing remote power for the Base Stations. Each RPI can power up to 8 or 16 Base Stations.

RPI See remote power interconnect.

RSSI Receive Signal Strength Indicator.

Secondary protector A series-connected overcurrent protector, with optional voltage surge protection, located between a primary protector and the equipment.

Site planning The process of positioning the Base Stations, antennas, and other hardware in the system to maximize coverage for the portable telephones and minimize the number of Base Stations required for acceptable performance. See the *Meridian Companion Site Planning Guide* for more information on site planning.

System LID The System Access Logical Identifier (LID) is a four-digit hexadecimal number by which the system identifies itself to portable telephones and which the portable telephones use to request service from the system. Only the installer can change the System LID.

System Reevaluation The process which automatically assigns Base Stations to cells and defines the cell configuration.

System Security Number (SSN) The unique number which identifies each Meridian Companion system.

TCM Time compression multiplexing.

Time compression multiplexing unit number A four-digit number that identifies a card and unit (cc-uu). In Meridian Companion, one port supports the Administration Terminal or a RAD connected to an administration PC. (If a system has an Administration Terminal and a RAD, each has a separate port.) The other ports support Base Stations and portable telephones.

TN Terminal Number. A port on a Meridian 1 system to which a particular telephone set is connected.

UTAM Activation Code Activates the wireless capability on a new system and in system upgrades involving a change to the number of Base Stations supported.

UTAM Recovery Code This code will clear a system of its “disablement” status and restore the Meridian Companion system to its previous radio capacity.

UTAM Inc. Unlicensed Transition And Management for Microwave relocation in the 2 GHz band. This is the private body appointed by the FCC to coordinate the deployment of Personal Communication Services in the Unlicensed spectrum and manage the relocation of existing users in that spectrum.

Version number See system version.

WTN Wireless Terminal Number. A four-digit number that maps to a TN and can be assigned to a portable telephone.